## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 SEC-01 JUSE-00 FTC-01 /107 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/BP:TASCHLENKER:VJW
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/BP:HJWINTER
EA/ANP - TWODJA
L/EB - SBENSON (INFO)
------020047Z 019806 /70

R 011647Z APR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS STATE 071789

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, AS

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST: FTC INVESTIGATION OF SPEEDO KNITTING MILLS

1. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (FTC) HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT ITS SEATTLE BRANCH IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION OF SPEEDO KNITTING MILLS (PTY) LTD., AN AUSTRALIAN COMPANY HEADQUARTERED IN SYDNEY, AND SEVERAL OF ITS U.S. SUBSIDIARIES OR AFFILIATES. INVESTIGATION IS AIMED AT DISCOVERING WHETHER THOSE COMPANIES HAVE UTILIZED ANY UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION OR ATTEMPTED TO MONOPOLIZE THE COMPETITION SWIMWEAR INDUSTRY IN THE U.S.

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2. SPEEDO HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING ITS SUITS SELECTED FOR USE BY THE U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM IN RECENT YEARS AND APPARENTLY HAS OBTAINED ENDORSEMENTS FROM MANY LEADING COACHES AND ATHLETES. SCOPE OF FTC INVESTIGATION INCLUDES AN INQUIRY INTO WHETHER UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION SUCH AS COMMERCIAL BRIBERY HAVE BEEN UTILIZED IN CONNECTION WITH SPEEDO'S ACTIVITIES, AND WHETHER ANY VIOLATIONS OF THE

ROBINSON-PATMAN ACT SUCH AS PAYMENT OF FALSE BROKERAGE HAVE OCCURRED.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, TRADE PRACTICES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, TRADE GROUP OFFICES, BARTON, A.C.T., OF THE ABOVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1967 OECD RECOMMENDATION ON NOTIFICATIONS OF RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICE ACTIONS TAKEN AFFECTING THE INTERESTS OF OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES. FTC HAS ALREADY INFORMED LEGAL COUNSELOR OF AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THIS CASE. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: ANTITRUST: FTC INVESTIGATION OF SPEEDO KNITTING MILLS

TAGS: ETRD, AS, SPEEDO KNITTING MILLS

To: CANBERRA

Type: TE

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